

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11 DRC-01 /143 W

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R 082040Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4206

INFO USDOC WASHDC

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, AR

SUBJECT: CALL ON MAYOR OF BUENOS AIRES, GENERAL EMBRIONI.

1. ON NOVEMBER 6TH I CALLED ON GENERAL JOSE EMBROINI, MAYOR OF BUENOS AIRES, ACCCOMPANIED BY DCM KREBS, COMMERCIAL ATTACHE WILLIAMS, AND ACTING PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HECTOR CARAM-ANDRUET. I HAD PREVIOUSLY RECEIVED WORD EXTRA-OFFICIALLY THAT A REQUEST BY ME TO CALL UPON THE MAYOR WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED.

2. THE MAYOR COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE CORDIAL. HIS FIRST QUESTION TO ME WAS: "ARE WE GOING TO BE LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE YOU REMAIN IN BUENOS AIRES?" HE MADE IT CLEAR, AS A LONG-TIME FRIEND AND CONFIDANT OF GENERAL PERON, THAT HE FELT THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ARGENTINA ARE AND SHOULD BE FRIENDS. I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD REMARKED TO GENERAL PERON THAT IF A COUNTRY DOES NOT KNOW WHO ARE ITS FRIENDS, IT CANNOT KNOW ITS ENEMIES. HE REPLIED THAT ARGENTINA IS WELL AWARE WHO ARE ITS FRIENDS AND ITS ENEMIES. HE REFERRED TO THE BASIC DOCUMENT OF PERONIST DOCTRINE WHICH HE HELPED

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PREPARE IN 1946 AND IN WHICH IT WAS STATED

UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS ARGENTINA IS AND WILL REMAIN PART OF THE WESTERN WORLD. THE ENEMIES OF THIS WORLD ARE THE MARXISTS. THE UNITED STATES IS THE LEADER AMONG THE COUNTRIES OPPOSING MARXIST DOMINATION OF THE WORLD. THEREFORE, ARGENTINA CAN ONLY BE A FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES.

3. I TOLD GENERAL EMBRIONI THAT THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AN ARGENTINE (PRESIDENT OF PEPSI-COLA ARGENTINA) WAS ACCOMPANYING ME TO SHOW THE SOLIDARITY OF THE OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN OUR DESIRE TO HAVE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE MAYOR AND THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF THIS GREAT CITY AND TO OFFER TO HELP IN ANY APPROPRIATE WAY IN THE TREMENDOUS TASK OF SERVING THE NEEDS OF THIS CENTER OF ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL LIFE OF THE COUNTRY. I TOLD HIM THAT BOTH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN ARGENTINA WANTED TO REITERATE TO HIM OUR DEMONSTRATED INTEREST IN PROMOTING TWO-WAY TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES INCLUDING THE PROMOTION OF TOURISM. WE OFFERED TO CONSULT WITH GENERAL EMBRIONI AND HIS STAFF ON ANY PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH WHICH OUR ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE USEFUL, SUCH AS OBTAINING TECHNICAL LITERATURE ON WAYS IN WHICH LARGE CITIES IN THE U.S. HAVE SOLVED PROBLEMS SIMILAR TO THOSE FACING BUENOS AIRES.

4. GENERAL EMBRIONI, IN A VERY FRIENDLY GESTURE, HAD AN AMERICAN FLAG FLANKING THE ARGENTINE FLAG IN HIS OFFICE. I FEEL THAT THIS GESTURE AND HIS CORDIALITY ARE ANOTHER INDICATION THAT THE PERONIST GOVERNMENT WANTS TO HAVE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH US. OF COURSE, THIS WILL NOT PRECLUDE THEM FROM PURSUING VIGOROUSLY WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE THEIR OWN INTERESTS VIS-A-VIS THE UNITED STATES.

5. I MIGHT ADD THAT GENERAL EMBRIONI IS WIDELY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BELIEVED TO BE ONE OF THE PEOPLE PRESIDENT PERON IS HOLDING IN RESERVE FOR AN IMPORTANT POSITION IN THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AT SOME FUTURE RESHUFFLING OF MINISTRIES. HE AND GENERAL PERON SERVED IN THE ARMY TOGETHER, GENERAL EMBRIONI AS A CAPTAIN AND GENERAL PERON AS A COLONEL.

DECON: 11/7/74.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MAYOR, VISITS, MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUENOS08146
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731147/aaaabirf.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06-Feb-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CALL ON MAYOR OF BUENOS AIRES, GENERAL EMBRIONI.
TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, AR, US, (EMBROINI, JOSE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005